

hydrocarbons by selenious oxide. The preparation of  $\alpha$ -acetylene alcohols. The oxidation of the hydrocarbon  $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$  with selenium dioxide gave the secondary alcohol  $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ . The next homologue, octyne, behaved in a similar manner on oxidation. L. ROYER: The orientation of certain crystals by hydrargillite. A peculiarity in the orientation of crystals deposited in contact with maced calcite. L. J. SPENCER: The origin of tectites. Michel and Lacroix have suggested that tectites are formed in the atmosphere from meteoric materials composed of silicon and the light metals, fused by the heat developed by friction with the air. The author suggests an alternative hypothesis according to which meteorites of meteoric iron impinging on desert sand have developed sufficient heat to melt the sand into a silica glass. This accords with the high percentage of silica found in tectites (see also NATURE, 131, 117, Jan. 28, 1933). F. BLONDEL: The average amount extracted from copper minerals. A. MARIN and P. FALLOT: The connexion of the dislocations of Punta Piscadores with those of the limestone chain of the Rif. C. E. BRAZIER and L. GÉNAUX: Some remarks concerning the earthquake of March 2, 1933. Discussion of the results obtained on the seismograms at the Observatory at Parc Saint-Maur. CH. MAURAIN: Remarks on the preceding communication. The amplitudes of the movements of the ground recorded during the earthquake of March 2 last are probably the greatest ever observed in the Paris region for movements of seismic origin. HENRY HUBERT: The climates of the French tropical domain. ZB. SUJKOWSKI: The presence of Radiolaria of the Phæodaria group in the lower Carboniferous of Poland. RENÉ VANDENDRIES and HAROLD J. BRODIE: The sexual radiations in the Fungi. Mlle. M. L. VERRIER: The eyes and vision of *Cerastes vipera* and *Vipera aspis*. MME. ANDRÉE DRILHON: Phosphorus and moulting in crustaceans. MME. HUFNAGEL and MARCEL JOLY: The action of the X-rays on the metamorphosis of insects. ROBERT SOREL: Tincture of iodine and asepis. The author questions the utility of tincture of iodine used as a preliminary wash for the skin in surgical operations, especially if lengthy. It appears to act as a varnish, and results as good can be obtained with a varnish not containing an antiseptic.

### Forthcoming Events

#### Monday, April 24

- UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, at 12—(Rouse Ball Foundation Lecture).—Prof. B. L. Van der Waerden: "The Aims of Modern Algebra".
- ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30—(Film).—R. J. Flaherty: "South Pacific Pictures".
- NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL PSYCHOLOGY, at 6—(at the London School of Economics, Houghton Street, W.C.2).—Mrs. W. Raphael: "The Selection and Training of Office Staff".
- ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8—(Cantor Lectures).—W. Augustus Steward: "Goldsmiths' and Silversmiths' Work—Past and Present" (succeeding lectures on May 1 and 8).

#### Tuesday, April 25

- EUGENICS SOCIETY, at 5.30—(at the Rooms of the Royal Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.1).—Symposium on "Eugenics and Religion". Speakers: Capt. G. H. L. F. Pitt-Rivers and the Rev. A. H. Gray.

GRESHAM LECTURES IN ASTRONOMY, at 6—(at Gresham College, Basinghall Street, E.C.2).—A. R. Hinks: "The Star Map of the Future" (succeeding lectures on April 26, 27 and 28).

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 6.—H. G. E. Cherry: "The Influence of Earthquakes on Structural Design". F. W. Furkert: "The Effect of Earthquakes on Engineering Structures". J. J. Booth: "The Design of an Earthquake-Resisting Structure: The Dominion Museum, Wellington, New Zealand".

#### Wednesday, April 26

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, at 5.—Prof. A. W. Marget: "The Natural Rate of Interest" (succeeding lectures on April 27 and May 3 and 4).

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Dr. W. H. Gibson: "Future Developments in the Flax and Linen Industries".

#### Thursday, April 27

LONDON MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, at 5—(at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.1).—Prof. B. L. van der Waerden: "Hypercomplex Numbers".

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 6—(Twenty-fourth Kelvin Lecture).—Sir Frank E. Smith: "The Travel of Wireless Waves".

#### Friday, April 28

ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC BIOLOGISTS, at 11.45—(in the Botany Lecture Theatre, Imperial College of Science and Technology).—Dr. S. Dickinson: "The Nature of Saltation in *Fusarium fructigenum*". At 2.30, Special General Meeting. At 2.45, Dr. C. B. Williams: "Observations on the Desert Locust in East Africa"; A. M. Masee: "The Strawberry Tarsonemid Mite".

SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY (CHEMICAL ENGINEERING GROUP), at 6.45—(at the Waldorf Hotel, Aldwych, London, W.C.2).—Annual General Meeting. The Right Hon. Lord Melchett: "Modern Economics and Unemployment".

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Dr. James Gray: "The Muscular Movements of Fishes".

FARADAY SOCIETY, April 24–25—(at the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, London, W.1).—General Discussion: "Liquid Crystals and Anisotropic Melts".

### Official Publications Received

#### GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Wool Industries Research Association. Report of the Council, 1932–33. Pp. 39. (Leeds.)

Air Ministry: Aeronautical Research Committee: Reports and Memoranda. No. 1495 (T. 3187): Improvement of Aircrew-Body Performance by Radial Vanes. By F. C. Johansen. Pp. 27+8 plates. 1s. 6d. net. No. 1496 (T. 3315): Acceleration of an Aeroplane upon entering a Vertical Gust. By L. W. Bryant and I. M. W. Jones. Pp. 16+15 plates. 1s. net. (London: H.M. Stationery Office.)

#### OTHER COUNTRIES

University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology. Vol. 33, No. 2: The Eastern Kuksu Cult. By E. M. Loeb. Pp. v+139–231. (Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press.) 1 dollar.

The University of Colorado Studies. Vol. 20, Nos. 2 and 3. Pp. 115–263. (Boulder, Colo.) 1 dollar.

L. S. Ornstein: a Survey of his Work from 1908 to 1933. Dedicated to him by his Fellow-Workers and Pupils. Pp. iv+121. (Utrecht.) Conseil Permanent International pour l'Exploration de la Mer. Rapports et procès-verbaux des réunions, Vol. 82: Interne Gezeiten-Wellen. By O. Pettersson. Pp. 26+viii. (Copenhagen: Andr. Fred Hest et fils.) 1.75 kr.

Isotophs: showing the Prevalence of Typhoons in Different Regions of the Far East for each Month of the Year 1932. By T. F. Claxton. Pp. 2+12 plates. (Hong Kong: Royal Observatory.)

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. Pamphlet No. 37: The Sheep Blowfly Problem in Australia. Report No. 1. (N.S.W. Department of Agriculture: Science Bulletin No. 40.) Pp. 136+6 plates. (Melbourne: H. J. Green.)

Colony of Mauritius. Annual Report of the Royal Alfred Observatory for the Year 1931. Pp. 4. Miscellaneous Publications of the Royal Alfred Observatory. No. 13: The Cyclone Season 1930–31 at Mauritius. By M. Herschenroder. Pp. 6+22 plates. (Mauritius.)